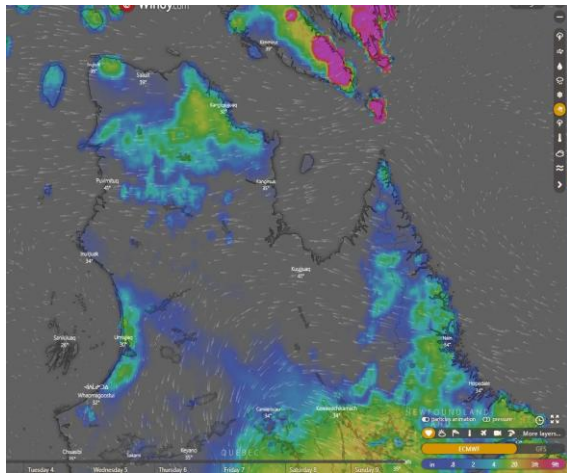


Preliminary Atlantic Population (AP) Canada Goose Nesting Report

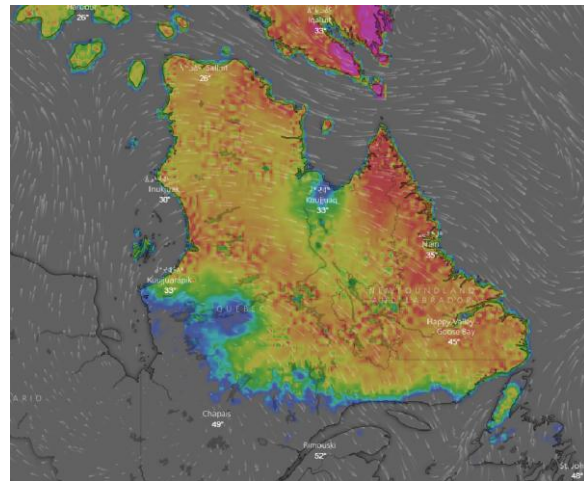
July 8, 2019

At this time there is limited data to forecast the success of the 2019 AP hatch but the early news is more promising than last year. The average May temperature from the eastern Ungava Peninsula (near Kuujuaq, PQ) for May, 2019 was close to 40°F. This is above the long term average (34°F) and well above last year's abnormally low 23°F May average temperature. However local reports indicated that May temperatures on the western coast of the Ungava Peninsula (near Puvirnituq, PQ) were somewhat colder than those on the eastern coast. Snow cover maps (see below) from late May show improved conditions compared to last year. Some snow and ice cover remained along the northern Hudson Bay coast while most of the Ungava Bay coast appeared to be relatively snow free. Gosling production is normally greatest in years when the spring thaw occurs in late May while a mid-June thaw typically forecasts lower productivity. Snow cover maps are derived from satellite imagery made available by www.windy.com.



Snow and Ice Cover Map for the Ungava Peninsula, PQ, **May 31, 2019**

(gray color = snow free areas red/orange = deeper snow)



Snow and Ice Cover Map for the Ungava Peninsula, PQ, **May 28, 2018**

(gray color = snow free areas red/orange = deeper snow)

The breeding pair survey was flown on a normal schedule by Canadian Wildlife Service and U. S Fish and Wildlife Service biologists and was completed in late June. The breeding pair survey data will be analyzed and a report will be prepared by mid-August. As a reminder the estimated number of breeding pairs is an important metric and will be used by the Atlantic Flyway Council and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to determine the hunt package (liberal, moderate, restrictive, closed) for the 2020-21 hunting season.

Biologists track nesting success by calculating a young:adult ratio at banding. AP geese typically hatch around July 1st. Banding crews from the U.S. (including 2 staff from Maryland DNR) and the Canadian Wildlife Service are scheduled to begin banding efforts around August 3rd, 2019 and we anticipate having the young:adult ratio available by mid-September.